



Why is tree removal regulated?

Trees are part of what makes Eugene a desirable place to live and work. Trees not only buffer the effects of traffic and development, they also fulfill essential ecological functions, such as improving air quality, and reducing soil erosion, and moderating temperature extremes. All of these benefits provided by trees have an economic value to the community. To those who live, work, and own businesses in Eugene, trees are one of our most valuable community assets. To maintain these important benefits, the City of Eugene has established certain requirements for removing trees.

When is a Tree Removal Permit required?

For certain types of tree removal, City regulations require a Tree Removal Permit. Whether a permit is required depends on the number and type of trees to be removed, and the site where the trees are located. The chart below summarizes current code requirements for tree removal permits on private property. Please contact the Urban Forestry office at 541-682-4800 for removal of a tree located in the street right-of-way, which may require a separate permit. Tree removal regulations are generally contained in Eugene Administrative Rule R-6.305.

Size of parcel	Land use on parcel	Proposed tree removal	Tree removal permit required?	Eugene Administrative Rule reference
Planned Unit Developments (PUD)	—	Removal of any tree or vegetation	For any parcel located in a PUD, the PUD conditions apply (in addition to the CCRs).	Check with the City for tree preservation requirements in the particular PUD.
Less than 20,000 square feet (and not a PUD)	Residential: Existing home, or a building permit for a home has been issued:	—	Can remove any number of trees; no tree permit required.	R-6.305(K)(b)
	Residential: No residence, & building permit not yet issued:	Removal of any tree*	Tree permit required.	R-6.305(C)(2)
	Commercial & others	Removal of any tree*	Tree permit required.	R-6.305(C)(2)
Larger than 20,000 square feet (and not in a PUD)	—	Removal of up to 5 trees* per 12 consecutive months	No permit required.	R-6.30(C)(1)
		More than 5 trees* per 12 consecutive months	Tree permit required.	R-6.30(C)(1)

*Tree removal permit requirements for private property (non-PUDs) apply only to “significant trees,” which are those trees having a minimum size of 8” d.b.h. (diameter breast height, which is diameter of the tree trunk or trunks measured at 4.5 feet above existing grade). See City of Eugene Administrative Rule R-6.305 for exact definitions.

If your project has other permits issued by the City, such as a building permit, a separate Tree Removal Permit is still required. There are some exceptions to these permit requirements. For example, if the City determines that a tree is hazardous, a Tree Removal Permit is not required. However, property owners who may have one of these types of trees should first contact the City for guidance on whether exemptions apply.

What is the process for obtaining a Tree Removal Permit?

Submittal requirements

A Tree Removal Permit Application form and permit fee must be submitted, along with a site plan and written statement showing how the proposal meets the permit approval criteria (see Applications Materials Checklist). The applicant receives written notice when the application is considered complete. The **Tree Removal Permit Application** form and an **Application Materials Checklist** are available at the City of Eugene Permit and Information Center located at 99 W. 10th Avenue.

Review process

The permit review process begins when an application is considered completed. During permit review, the City determines whether the Tree Removal Permit Application addresses the permit approval criteria in the code. For example, the application must address whether tree removal is necessary due to new construction. Environmental impacts must also be addressed, such as erosion and wildlife habitat values. The City's review of a Tree Removal Permit application takes approximately 10 working days for 10 or fewer trees. For more than 10 trees, getting a Tree Removal Permit can take up to 45 working days (which includes a 15-day public comment period). Permit applications that are complete and thorough in addressing the approval criteria can be processed within shorter time frames. A copy of the Eugene Administrative Rule R-6.305 containing the permit approval criteria is available at the City of Eugene Permit and Information Center.

How much does a Tree Removal Permit cost?

Fees for a Tree Removal Permit are based on the number of trees to be removed and whether or not public notice is required by code (surrounding properties must be mailed public notice where more than 10 trees are to be removed or where there may be substantial impacts from tree removal). The following permit fees must be submitted with a Tree Removal Permit Application:

■	1-10 trees	\$ 80
■	1-10 trees with public notice	\$160
■	11-50 trees	\$320
■	51-100 trees	\$520
■	100+ trees	\$520 + \$1 per tree over 100 trees + 9% administrative fee

For more information on Tree Removal Permits, please contact Land Use staff at 541-682-8336 or landuseinfo@eugene.or.us.

Please note: The information in this Info Sheet is not intended to replace the provisions of the Eugene tree preservation ordinance or administrative rule. It is the applicant's responsibility to understand all sections and requirements of any City of Eugene regulations that may be applicable to a tree removal proposal.